SPIRONOLACTONE (Group 3)

A. Evidence for carcinogenicity to humans (inadequate)

Cases of breast cancer have been reported in women who had used spironolactone. Four analytical studies, however, showed no consistent evidence of an association¹.

B. Evidence for carcinogenicity to animals (limited)

Spironolactone was tested for carcinogenicity by oral administration in two experiments in rats. Increased incidences of thyroid and testicular tumours were reported in one experiment but not in another experiment of longer duration with lower doses¹.

C. Other relevant data

No data were available to the Working Group.

Reference

¹IARC Monographs, 24, 259-273, 1980